

Appendix I- Proposed Amendment to the Claims

1. A DNA construct for expression of multiple gene products in a cell comprising:

- (a) a single promoter at the 5' end of the construct[[]];
- (b) an intein splicing unit comprising two or more extein sequences encoding ~~one or more~~ separate proteins, and one or more intein sequences fused to the carboxy-terminus encoding portion of each extein sequence, except the last extein sequence to be expressed[[]]; and

(c) a 3' termination sequence comprising a polyadenylation signal following the last extein protein coding sequence[[]];

wherein the intein splicing unit is expressed as a precursor protein containing at least one intein flanked by extein encoded proteins; ~~and wherein at least one of the inteins can catalyze excision of the exteins; and wherein at least one amino acid residue is substituted in, or added to, the intein splicing unit so that the excised exteins are not ligated by the intein.~~

7. The construct of claim 1 wherein the extein sequences encoding ~~one or more~~ separate proteins are preceded or followed by a sequence encoding a peptide that targets the gene expression product to a particular compartment within the cell in which the construct is expressed.

15. A method for expressing multiple genes in cells comprising transforming the cells with a DNA construct comprising:

- (a) a single promoter at the 5' end of the construct[[]];
- (b) an intein splicing unit comprising two or more extein sequences encoding ~~one or more~~ separate proteins, and one or more intein sequences fused to the carboxy-terminus encoding portion of each extein sequence, except the last extein sequence to be expressed[[]]; and

(c) a 3' termination sequence comprising a polyadenylation signal following the last extein protein coding sequence;

wherein the intein splicing unit is expressed as a precursor protein containing at least one intein flanked by extein encoded proteins; ~~and wherein at least one of the inteins can catalyze excision of the exteins; and wherein at least one amino acid residue is substituted in, or added to, the intein splicing unit so that the excised exteins are not ligated by the intein.~~

21. The method of claim 15 wherein the extein sequences encoding ~~one or more~~ separate proteins are preceded or followed by a sequence encoding a peptide that targets the gene expression product to a particular compartment within the cell in which the construct is expressed.

24. The method of claim 15 wherein the intein splicing unit expression product prevents the ligation reactions normally associated with protein splicing.